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S E C R E T THE HAGUE 001038

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/ESC/TFS(GLASS), S/CT(NAVRATIL,
NEA/ARP(HEFFERNAN), EUR/ERA, EUR/UBI, IO/PHO(PEREZ)
TREASURY FOR ZARATE AND OFAC/NEWCOMB
JUSTICE FOR OIA/FRIEDMAN
NSC FOR PETERS
BRUSSELS ALSO FOR LEGATT

E.O. 12958: DNG: CO 04/15/2015

TAGS: [ETTC](#) [PTER](#) [NL](#) [EUN](#)

SUBJECT: TERRORIST FINANCE: DUTCH RESPONSE TO
PRENOTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL HARAMAIN DESIGNATIONS

REF: A. STATE 89240

- [1](#)B. THE HAGUE 834
- [1](#)C. STATE 71982
- [1](#)D. THE HAGUE 771
- [1](#)E. STATE 62199

Classified By: Economic Counselor Richard Huff. Reasons 1.5 (d)

[1](#)1. (S) Summary: The Netherlands confirms that it supports designation of the additional Al Haramain branches and will take complementary national action to ensure effective action in the interim period between the U.S. designation and its incorporation into EU regulations. However, the GONL has proposed revisions (detailed below) to our SOC. The Dutch have not yet decided to designate the mosque closely associated with the Amsterdam Al Haramain branch but may take action against it for inciting violence against homosexuals and women. End Summary.

[1](#)2. (S) After holding (4/23) interagency consultations, the GONL has asked that the USG revise the draft Statement of the Case regarding designation of additional Al-Haramain branch offices (delivered by post to through Dutch Finance and Foreign Ministries on (4/23)). Dutch officials believe the U.S. draft sentence reading "Since 2001, Dutch officials have noted indications that the Al-Haramain branch in the Netherlands supported violence" overstates the available evidence to and public statements of Dutch officials on this matter. The Dutch have proposed that the sentence be reworded to read "Since 2001, Dutch officials have confirmed that the Al Haramain Humanitarian Aid Foundation located in Amsterdam is part of the larger Al Haramain network and that Al Aqil is the chairman of this foundation's board of directors." The propose deleting the following sentence (begins with "Al Aqil is a board member..." in the U.S. draft text) as the fact that Al Aqil is a board member is now captured in the sentence before and while Dutch officials have noted possible connections between Al Aqil and the Bosnian branches of Al Haramain and BIF, they have not acknowledged connections between the Dutch Al Haramain branch per se and these other entities.

[1](#)3. (S) Dutch officials confirmed that the GONL will follow up the U.S. designation of the additional Haramain branches with immediate complementary national action -- at first by working informally with banks to ensure any possible transactions are made impossible through administrative and technical difficulties and then through invocation of their national sanctions law. They do not expect to capture significant, if any, funds as a result of the designation as the Dutch chapter has been relatively inactive.

[1](#)4. (S) The Dutch have not yet decided to designate the Al-Tawheed mosque/foundation which is closely associated and colocated with the Dutch Al Haramain chapter. It is unclear whether the institutional linkages between the two organizations provide a sufficient basis for designation. However, Dutch authorities may (partly as a result of pressure from members of parliament and the Amsterdam city council) take legal action against the mosque and/or its board of directors on the grounds that the mosque incites violence by selling literature calling for the murder of homosexuals, beating of "disobedient" wives, and female genital mutilation.

[1](#)5. (S/NF) Dutch officials also asked why the U.S. is designating only the foreign branches of Haramain and not the Saudi branches/headquarters. Any information Washington agencies could provide in that regard would be greatly appreciated.
SOBEL